

REMARKS

The Examiner's outstanding Final Office Action mailed February 6, 2008 has been carefully considered. Various of the claims have been amended to more clearly set forth the invention. It is believed that the claim amendments obviate the outstanding rejections pursuant to Section 112 of the Patent Statute. Several new claims, allowable as explained below, have been added hereby.

Embodiments of the claimed invention include a wireless communication system incorporating a plurality of synchronized wireless units. At least some of the units minimize energy requirements by entering an inactive mode between synchronizing signals. At least some of the units enter an active state prior to the receipt of the next synchronizing signal and are in wireless communication with other wireless units in the plurality while in an active state.

As explained in the specification and illustrated in figures of the present application, unit control circuitry can monitor both data being transmitted by a local transceiver and data being received thereby. Where there is a discrepancy therebetween, the control circuitry can determine that a higher priority message is being received than is being transmitted. In this circumstance, the control circuitry can terminate transmission of the lower priority message and continue monitoring received signals. Once transmission of the higher priority message has been completed, the control circuitry can restart transmission of the lower priority message.

Unlike the claimed invention, van Bokhorst et al. attempt to address collisions by using a CSMA/CA collision avoidance medium access protocol, see col. 10 ll. 10-20 thereof. This reflects a teaching away from the present invention and neither anticipates nor makes the pending claims obvious for at least the above reasons. Neither of the supplemental documents, O'Scolai et al., nor Lucas et al. make up for the deficiencies of van Bokhorts et al. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of the application, including the newly added claims. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would

expedite the prosecution hereof, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, such as a fee/check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. (*If being filed by paper, a duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.*)

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 29, 2008

By



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